

Application No.: 10/786206

Case No.: 59541US002

Amendments to the Claims:

Please enter new claim 30:

30. (New) The hydrophilic article of claim 1, wherein the T_g of the adhesive layer and thermoplastic polymer layer are at or below 25°C.

Basis for new claim 30 may be found at page 6, lines 4-5.

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A hydrophilic article exhibiting a water contact angle of < 90° comprising:

a thermoplastic polymer layer having a first surface and a second surface having an adhesive layer bonded to said second surface, said adhesive layer comprising a nonionic fluorochemical surfactant that migrates to said first surface of said polymeric layer, wherein said thermoplastic polymer layer is initially hydrophobic prior to surfactant migration

2. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 wherein said polymeric layer comprises films, porous membranes, microporous membranes, and fibrous polymer layers.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 [[4]] wherein said surfactant is of the formula

$(R_f-Q)_n-Z$ wherein

R_f represents a partially- or fully- fluorinated aliphatic group,

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Q is an organic divalent or multivalent linking group or a covalent bond,

Z is a hydrophilic poly(oxyalkylene) group and n is 1 to 6.

6. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 5 wherein Z comprises a poly(oxyalkylene) of the formula $(OR')_x$ wherein R' is an alkylene group of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, and x is a number from 4 to 25.

7. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 5 wherein said poly(oxyalkylene) group is terminated by a hydroxyl, an alkyl, alkaryl ether, or fluoroalkyl ether.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 wherein said surfactant is present in an amount sufficient to render said thermoplastic polymer layer hydrophilic.

11. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 10 wherein said adhesive layer comprises at least 3 wt.% of said surfactant.

12. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 10 wherein said adhesive layer comprises 5 to 40 wt.% of said surfactant.

13. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 wherein said polymeric layer is selected from polyesters, polyurethanes, polyamides and poly(alpha)olefins

14. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 wherein said polymeric layer is selected from homo-, co- and terpolymers of aliphatic mono- alpha olefins.

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15. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 wherein said polymeric layer is selected from homo-, co- and terpolymers of ethylene and propylene.
16. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer is a pressure sensitive adhesive layer.
17. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 further comprising a release liner.
18. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic polymer layer is patterned.
19. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 printed on at least a portion of the hydrophilic surface with an image pattern of ink.
20. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 19 wherein said ink is an aqueous ink.
21. (Original) The hydrophilic article of claim 1 wherein said thermoplastic polymer layer is initially hydrophobic
22. (Original) A liquid transport article comprising the hydrophilic article of claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer layer comprises a microstructure-bearing surface with a plurality of channels that facilitate the directional flow of a liquid disposed thereon.
23. (Withdrawn) A method of preparing a hydrophilic article according to claim 1 comprising coating a thermoplastic polymer layer with an adhesive layer, said adhesive layer comprising a surfactant that migrates to said first surface of said polymeric layer.
24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein said thermoplastic polymer layer comprises a film, a membrane, or a fibrous polymer layer.

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25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein said surfactant is present in an amount sufficient to render said thermoplastic polymer layer hydrophilic.
26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein said surfactant is selected from nonionic, anionic, and amphoteric surfactants.
27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26 wherein said surfactant is a fluorochemical nonionic surfactant.
28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein said surfactant is present in an amount sufficient to render said thermoplastic polymer layer hydrophilic.
29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28 wherein said adhesive layer comprises at least 3 wt.% of said surfactant.
30. (New) The hydrophilic article of claim 1, wherein the T_g of the adhesive layer and thermoplastic polymer layer are at or below 25°C.